GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COAL
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2488
ANSWERED ON:07.08.2001
PRIVATE PARTICIPATION IN EXPLORATION AND PRODUCTION OF COAL
ADHIR RANJAN CHOWDHURY;SHYAMA SINGH

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have decided to allow unrestricted entry to private participation in the exploration and production of coal;

(b) if so, whether this move is going to affect the workers engaged in coal mines;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(d) the extent to which the interests of worker are likely to be protected even after the privatisation of coal mines ?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR COAL (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN)

(a) : The Coal Mines (Nationalistion) Amendment Bill,2000 has been introduced in the Rajya Sabha on 24.4.2000 with the objectives i) to allow the Indian companies to mine coal and lignite in the country without the existing restriction of captive mining. ii) to allow the Indian companies in the public and private sector to undertake exploration of coal and lignite resources in the country.

(b), (c) & (d) : Privatisation of Coal India Limited or its subsidiaries is presently not under the consideration of Government of India.